

Organization Mission Statements and Descriptions

Kentucky Waterways Alliance

The mission of the Kentucky Waterways Alliance is to protect and restore Kentucky's waterways and their watersheds by building an effective alliance for their stewardship.

The work of Kentucky Waterways Alliance is to help citizens protect their local waterways. Kentucky Waterways Alliance provides support for implementing solutions to shared problems; networking opportunities; annual conference; training for citizen groups; cost-share for projects by citizen groups; quarterly newsletter; news bulletins; legislative updates; and education and information.

Membership is open not only to citizen groups, but individuals and families, water resource organizations, corporations, and anyone concerned about the future of Kentucky's water resources.

Area Development District Council

Area Development Districts grew out of the efforts by local elected officials and citizens in the Commonwealth to find collaborative means with which to deal with problems affecting their communities.

The Districts serve as forums, clearinghouses, technical centers and meeting places for the region. Unlike many other organizations structured along multi-jurisdictional lines, the ADDs have both federal and state statutory authority.

The ADDs share some common characteristics with other regional councils throughout the United States:

- Extensive program and service delivery experience
- Fiscal Accountability
- Technical and Professional Staff
- Non-partisan approach
- Flexibility

- Broad-based partnership development
- Established capacity

The ADD network is best characterized by the following distinctions, unique among regional organizations:

- The 15 ADDs provide a system of complete coverage to all 120 counties.
- ADDs provide systematic links between local leadership and the Governor's Office and state and federal agencies and private organizations.
- The ADDs deal with all program areas within the Commonwealth.

Kentucky Association of Counties

The county officials who formed the Kentucky Association of Counties in 1974 defined its mission as "...rendering technical, informational, and other services to the various counties of the state; to the state for the improvement of county government; and, for the general welfare of the people of the state."

League of Cities

The Kentucky League of Cities is a non-profit organization that represents approximately 350 cities in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The League offers services such as legislative lobbying, insurance pools, financial services, and legal assistance to member cities. The League also conducts training and informational seminars in areas of importance to municipalities of all classes.

The cities of Kentucky bring an abundance of resources to the table in the area of clean water. Cities are the primary entities in Kentucky with responsibility for sewage treatment and storm water management. Cities are also responsible for providing safe drinking water to urban residents, who

make up approximately one-half of the state's population, and often residents of rural areas. Cities are generally the driving force behind economic development in each county, and are increasingly utilizing the services of a professional economic development coordinator. The combined expertise of mayors, economic development officers, and water and sewer personnel provide an excellent resource for determining the extent of local water use, resource protection and conservation.

Private Lands Council

The Kentucky Private Lands Council (PLC) is a coordinated effort of state and federal agencies and nongovernmental organizations which offer natural resource management assistance to private landowners. The Council's goals are to coordinate services to Kentucky landowners and to help landowners be more efficient and cost effective. The PLC members work together to integrate the services and financial assistance available to private landowners. This will provide the best programs possible for protecting and enhancing Kentucky's natural resources. All members of the PLC are extremely excited about the potential of this program. The PLC will be a customer service organization able to adapt programs based upon input from the local level.

The goals of the PLC are to:

1. Coordinate distribution of information about landowner assistance programs;
2. Coordinate and provide technical support;
3. Coordinate cost-share and other incentive programs;
4. Form county-level private lands councils;
5. Develop integrated resource management plans for private landowners;
6. Eliminate any contradictory advice currently being given to landowners;
7. Eliminate or reduce duplications of services;
8. Seek alternate funding sources to replace shrinking federal funds.

Sierra Club

The purposes of the Sierra Club are to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the

earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity; to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

Our Vision:

For nearly 100 years, Sierra Club members have shared a vision of humanity living in harmony with the Earth.

We envision a world where wilderness areas and open spaces are protected habitats sustaining all species ... a world where oceans and streams are clean and the air is pure... a world where a healthy biosphere and a nontoxic environment are inalienable rights. In short, we envision a world saved from the threat of unalterable planetary disaster.

To save our planet, we must change the world –

Priorities must change: People must learn to live in ways that preserve and protect our precious resources.

Policies must change: Our institutions must abandon practices that recklessly endanger the environment.

Values must change: Progress must be measured by its long-term value to living systems and creatures rather than its short-term value to special interests or the economy.

To achieve this vision, people across the nation and around the world must speak out with a powerful voice that cannot be ignored. Aggressive grassroots action on an unprecedented scale is essential to protect our environment and our species. There is no other choice. It will require leadership that is visionary, experienced, and strong.

Chamber of Commerce

The Kentucky Chamber of Commerce will create and support a competitive business climate in the Commonwealth through advocacy, information, and customer service.

Environment Mission:

The Kentucky Chamber of Commerce believes that economic growth and environmental protection are compatible, in fact, complementary goals. Furthermore, the Chamber recognizes that legitimate uses of the environment should be protected and that business and

development many affect environmental quality. To achieve rational regulatory objectives, it is the chamber's policy to encourage legislative and administrative actions of government which satisfy the following three criteria:

Scientific validity. The need for government action should be established on the basis of objective information available for public review on which meaningful consensus of opinion can be achieved. Such information should demonstrate that any proposed action will result in avoidance of environmental harms or creation of environmental benefits.

Technical feasibility. To achieve the objective of governmental regulation information must be available or reasonably anticipated to become available to those required to take action within the time provided by government mandates.

Economic rationality. Government action must consider the appropriate allocation of resources over time. Requirements for compliance should also consider business' ability to operate profitably within the confines of a legal requirement.

Kentucky Water Interagency Coordinating Committee

The Kentucky Water Interagency Coordinating Committee (KWICC) was formed in 1991 to convene representatives of nonpoint source pollution control interests on a quarterly basis to discuss water quality issues. The charge of the group is to share water information, review and facilitate Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant projects and project proposals, coordinate watershed activities and data, and promote program accomplishments. Representatives of the following agencies are involved:

University of Kentucky (UK), Dept. of Agriculture Engineering

UK Dept. of Agronomy

UK Cooperative Extension Service

KY Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Pesticides

US Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

US Dept. of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency

KY Farm Bureau

KY Division of Water

KY Division of Conservation

US Geological Survey, Water Resources Division

KY State University Cooperative Extension Programs

KY Geological Survey

KY Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Western Kentucky University

Agricultural Water Quality Authority

The Agricultural Water Quality Authority is administratively attached to the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet. It consists of a multidisciplinary peer group that is charged with evaluating, developing, and improving best management practices in conservation plans, compliance plans, and forest stewardship management plans; establishing statewide and regional agriculture water quality plans; and otherwise promoting soil and water conservation activities that protect waters of the Commonwealth from the adverse impacts of agriculture operations within the Commonwealth.

Tennessee Valley Authority

TVA has a rich history as a steward of the Tennessee Valley's natural resources. Established as a federal corporation in 1933, TVA was charged with providing electricity to the Valley region which includes most of Tennessee and parts of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Virginia. TVA was also mandated to provide flood control, manage lands and recreation areas held in the name of the United States, tend and manage the Tennessee River system, and promote economic development.

Kentucky River Authority

The Kentucky River Authority was first established by the Kentucky General Assembly in 1986 to take over operation of the Kentucky River Locks and Dams 5 through 14 from the United States Corps of Engineers. Following the drought of 1988, the Authority was given a mission to protect and improve the waters of the Kentucky River through environmental management of the entire water-

shed. It is the first effort by the Commonwealth of Kentucky to protect a great water resource through watershed management. Watershed management recognizes that a river is more than the water flowing in the main channel. Human activities through the drainage area of the river affect the amount and quality of water that flows through the main channel. The Authority is charged with developing comprehensive plans for the management of the Kentucky River Basin, including long range water supply, drought response and ground water protection plans. It is to adopt regulations to improve and coordinate water resource activities within the basin among state agencies. The Authority may adopt water quality standards for the basin that are more stringent than those applied to the rest of the state. It is also charged with developing recreational areas within the basin.

Sanitation Districts

Pursuant to KRS 220.030, sanitation districts may be established for any of the following purposes:

- to prevent and correct the pollution of streams
- to regulate the flow of streams for sanitary purposes
- to clean and improve stream channels for sanitary purposes
- to provide for the collection and disposal of sewage and other liquid wastes produced within the district; and incident to such purposes and to enable their accomplishment, to construct, with all appurtenances thereto, laterals, trunk sewers, intercepting sewers, siphons, pumping stations, treatment and disposal works, to maintain, operate, and repair same, and do all other things necessary for the fulfillment of the purposes of KRS 220.010 to 220.520
- to provide for the management of onsite sewage disposal systems
- to develop and implement plans for the collection and disposal of storm drainage to the extent that collection and disposal of storm drainage is required by applicable federal and state regulations.

Water Supply Planning Council

Water supply planning council is designed to be representative of the people or agencies who make or are affected by water supply decisions in the planning unit. The planning council is the decision-making body for water supply planning. Their duties are to oversee the planning process, be responsible for placing public decisions, elect a planning council chair, select a planning representative, determine what constitutes a quorum, keep local media informed throughout the planning process, keep minutes of all meetings and a list of attendees, set planning goals and objectives, assure that consensus is reached in all planning activities, when possible, document differences of opinion and to oversee plan implementation.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Pursuant to KRS 262.020, the purpose of soil and water conservation districts are as follows:

The purpose of a soil and water conservation district is to conserve and develop all renewable natural resources within the district. In so doing, the district is authorized to undertake, sponsor, or participate in projects and activities which promote the conservation, development, maintenance and use of the land, water, trees and other renewable natural resources of the district. Such projects and activities shall include but not be limited to conservation practices on agricultural lands, the control of soil erosion, retardation of water runoff, the construction of flood prevention and control reservoirs, the maintenance of flood plains, the promotion of projects to assure an adequate municipal, industrial and agricultural supply of water, watershed stabilization, the avoidance and abatement of sedimentation and pollution in streams and other bodies of water, forestation and reforestation, the establishment of parks and outdoor recreation areas, the protection of open space, greenbelt areas and scenery, the preservation of wilderness areas, the protection of open space, greenbelt areas and scenery, the preservation of wilderness areas, the protection of fish and wildlife, working for the location of highways, industries, housing developments, airports and other structures as are consistent with the district's objectives and will offer the least possible natural resources development of the district.